

WEATHER
Cloudy tonight and
Fair Saturday

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Today's Silver
Quotation, 58 1-4

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TONOPAH, NEVADA, FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 8, 1912.

PRICE 10 CENTS.

TONOPAH GAS COMPANY PLANT IS DESTROYED BY FIRE THIS MORNING

Loss is Estimated at \$25,000---The Company Will Begin the Work of Reconstruction at Once---Spontaneous Combustion Cause of Fire.

This morning at 3:20 o'clock the midway whistle was blown, sounding a fire alarm for the Nevada Gas company plant was in flames. The other mining whistles responded to the midway alarm and in a few minutes quite a number of people had gathered to battle with the flames. The paid department very promptly responded to the alarm, but were compelled to return to one of the volunteer hose houses for their cart, to lay additional hose, it requiring 1400 feet of hose to reach the flames from the nearest hydrant. By this time the oil flames had spread throughout the corrugated iron building.

The fire had undoubtedly been burning some time before it was

discovered by William Evans of the Montana mill, who happened to be outside of the mill building, and began hollering fire, which was heard by the midway mine watchman. The man in charge of the plant states that there had not been a fire under the boilers since 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and how the fire originated is not known, but it started in the rear of the generating room and quickly spread throughout the building, caused by the ground floor being soaked with oil. The boiler is about the only part of the machinery that was not damaged; throughout the fire it was blowing off at times. The gas holder, or large iron tank, was not damaged and still contains many thousands of

cubic feet of gas, but without the air compressors, which were destroyed, the pressure cannot be obtained to force it through the mains. The fire burned for two hours and was extinguished with the chemical cartridges used in the nozzle. These cartridges contain a soda solution and did their work nicely in putting out the flames. Had the pure water been played upon the oil it would have caused the flames to spread, and the adjoining buildings must have been burned. Had a water hydrant been near to the gas plant but little damage would have resulted from the flames. It is now thought that spontaneous combustion caused the fire. The loss is estimated at \$25,000, but may fall

short of this amount. Mr. Connors, the manager of the local plant, which is owned by the California Light & Fuel company of San Francisco, received the following dispatch this afternoon from General Manager L. P. Lowe: "San Francisco March 8, 1912. 'C. A. Connors, Manager Nevada Gas Company, Tonopah: 'Start cleaning up and get things in shape for repairs. Will send consulting engineer from here on tomorrow's train to inspect and see what is necessary. Telegraph me if gas holder is all right. Presume purifiers were burned. Notify representatives and consumers plant will be running quick as repairs can be made. L. P. LOWE."

BRITISH EXPLORER HAS DISCOVERED SOUTH POLE

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, March 8.—Captain Raold Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer, has stated here that Captain Scott, the British explorer, reached the South Pole.

LONDON, March 8.—The first message with the definite statement from Amundsen that Scott had reached the South Pole was received from Wellington, N. Z., by the Daily Express.

COPENHAGEN, March 8.—The Demokraten publishes a dispatch from Christiania saying that a private individual in that city has received a telegram from the Fram expedition stating that Amundsen reached the South Pole.

CHRISTIANA, Norway, March 8.—King Haakon of Norway, who was to have received the news from Captain Raold Amundsen if he had been successful in attaining the South Pole, has not received any communication from the explorer.

LONDON, March 8.—Mrs. Scott, wife of the British explorer, has not received any direct news of her husband's reported success. She said that she was unable to imagine how Captain Amundsen would know, saying:

"I hope the news is true, but at present I do not care to say anything."

The cable dispatches from New Zealand that Captain Scott had found the South Pole came as a startling climax to the race which five explorers of different nationalities have been making to reach this last extremity of the undiscovered portion of the globe.

Captain Robert Falcon Scott started on his expedition from Port Chalmers, N. Z., on November 29, 1910. He was well equipped for this dash and for the farthest south, having made a previous expedition under the direction of the Royal Geographical society.

At that time he attained a record of 82 degrees 30 minutes, which remained the record up to the time of Lieutenant Shackleton's notable exploit. Shackleton pushed further south and in 1907 reach 88 degrees 23 minutes, or about 100 miles from the South Pole. This remained the record and inspired navigators of many nations to attempt the culminating feat of reaching the pole.

Captain Scott took the route by way of Australia and New Zealand. He sailed due south into Ross sea, a great stretch of water, reaching toward the South Pole. His chief competitor was Captain Raold Amundsen, who was commissioned by the king of Norway and the Norwegian government.

Amundsen chose the route by way of South America, as against Scott and three others, who went by the Australian route. Amundsen left Buenos Ayres on board the steamer Fram toward the coast of 1910. He passed through the Straits of Magellan and then steered for Ross sea, the same sheet of water which Scott had gained by way of New Zealand and the Australian route.

Captain Scott planned to follow the same land trail that Shackleton had taken. This is along a mountain range, thought to be an extension of the Andes range running south through South America.

At the furthestmost point of Ross sea, Captain Scott debarked his party from his ship, the Terra Nova. At this point stands the great volcano Mount Erebus, from which rises constantly a great volume of steam. It is one of the dreaded localities of the antarctic, to which navigators have given the name of Terror bay, for here Nordenskiöld's ship, the Antarctic, was crushed by the ice. Back of this bay the steam wrapped volcano stands out like a sentinel against the ice-covered mountain range stretching southward.

First Winter Quarters.

Captain Scott made his first winter quarters on the slope of the mountains and there remained until November 1911. It was then that his dash began. His plan was to cover the remaining distance by the end of December and then about-face and make the dash back again.

He placed his reliance not only on his equipment of food, but had a score of ponies, 29 dogs and one motor sledge. He designed to use this sledge in making rapid progress over the comparatively level stretches of the foothills. Due allowance

was made for the death of ponies and dogs, the steady depletion of the stores and the loss of vitality of the party making up the expedition.

Captain Amundsen had no ponies and no motor sledge, as his experience led him to place all his reliance on Siberian dogs.

The other competitors in the race were Lieutenant William Fitchner of the general staff of the German army; Lieutenant N. Shiraz of the Japanese navy, and Dr. Douglas Mawson, representing Australia.

Lieutenant Fitchner followed largely the plans of Dr. Nassen and sailed on the steamer Deutschland on October 5 last. He is a daring explorer, having been one of the first to reach Lhasa in Tibet, and much confidence was felt in him by the Geographical society of Berlin.

The Japanese explorer followed the Shackleton route into Ross sea, but returned to Sydney, Australia, in 1911, to repair damage done in Terror bay. His second start was not made until November last, so that he is rather behind in the race.

Dr. Mawson, the Australian, took his route from the harbor of Hobart, Tasmania, aboard the little ship Mawson, and took the land route to the east of Ross sea.

These five men and their parties were out of sight of the world for many months, until the first rumor came yesterday, with the confirmatory report that Amundsen had returned and had brought word that his leading opponent had reached the coveted goal.

From a geographical and scientific standpoint, the discovery of the South Pole, while a momentous event, has not the same features of importance and danger as relate to the North Pole. The quest of the latter has been through great fields of open water and floating ice, whereas the South Pole is situated on land.

Scores of navigators have perished in the quest of the North Pole but relatively few in trying to reach the South Pole. The problem has not been one of reaching the pole over floating ice, but of passing rapidly over the snow-covered foothills of the mountain range and terrifying glaciers.

"DAWG" APPEARS WITH HIS HOWL; AND CLARK WINS

"HOUN" DWAG" STROLLS INTO CONVENTION ROOM AND MISSOURIAN GETS BIG VOTE.

IOLA, Kan., March 8.—The "daws" was present, and Champ Clark won the seven delegates to the state convention at Hutchinson, chosen last night at the Allen county convention here. A resolution had been offered indorsing Champ Clark when the "houn" daws" strayed in. In the midst of a speech hailing William Jennings Bryan as the only candidate who could lead the democrats to victory, somebody stepped on the "daws's" tail.

"Woo-oo-oo!" howled the canine, and it was several minutes before the convention calmed down. On a vote to indorse Bryan, the delegates were brought to their feet in a hubbub and a delegate again trod on the "daws's" tail. With another howl the "houn" leaped across the platform in front of the chairman's table.

Calls of "put him out—put him out!" were mingled with those of "vote—vote!" The "daws" stayed and Clark won out.

AN UNDESIRABLE PEOPLE.

A band of Gypsies have arrived in Tonopah to beg, borrow and steal, if the opportunity is given them. They are an undesirable class of people and should be compelled to move on. They have been ordered out of several towns in this state on their arrival.

RIGHT YOU ARE.

Age and a small brother tell on a girl.—Placerville Republican.

BELMONT EX. MINING COMPANY ELECTS OFFICERS

The annual meeting of the Belmont Extension Mining company was held at the offices of Bartlett & Thatcher, in Tonopah, March 1, and the following officers were elected: Leson Balliett, president and general manager; J. R. Balliett, vice president; W. B. Vorhees, secretary and treasurer, and George B. Thatcher, assistant secretary and treasurer; F. B. Weir, director. All of the directors except Mr. Vorhees reside in Tonopah. Mr. Vorhees, who was secretary of the Belmont Mines company, resides in Toledo, Ohio.

The meeting was a harmonious one; \$13,000 shares out of 900,000 were represented at the meeting. The new board of directors found that the company was in debt over \$11,000, with only \$147 in the bank. It therefore became necessary for the board to authorize a note for \$11,420 to cover past indebtedness. The new directors also arranged to obtain \$2500 on the company's note so as to enable it to immediately start work on its property. It was very apparent at the meeting that the Belmont Extension is controlled by the Buckeye Belmont Mines company and that this company will in the future dictate the policy of the Belmont Extension. It was understood on good authority that the Buckeye Belmont Mines company intends to wind up the Belmont Extension and absorb its property into the Buckeye Belmont Mines company.

COLORED MAN FLOATS OUT.

Wednesday night Ambrose Murphy found a colored man, who gave him the name of David Bailey, and Winemucca as his place of residence, secreted in his woodyard. After seeing Mr. Murphy had spied him, he jumped over the fence and ran up Florence avenue with Murphy in pursuit. The colored man, finding that his pursuer was gaining on him, dodged between two houses and surrendered when Murphy ordered him to throw up his hands. The fugitive was taken to the police station and later locked up. Yesterday Judge Atkinson sentenced him to fifteen days in the county jail for vagrancy, but suspended sentence until this morning. The colored man "hit the road" this morning for Reno. It is thought he intended to hold up the White Mountain Water company office, but was frustrated in his intent by Mr. Murphy finding him in the woodyard.

SENATE INQUIRY INTO PRESIDENT TAFT'S POLITICS

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Senator Bristow tossed a firebrand into the senate when he introduced a resolution apparently aimed at the president, urging inquiry into the reports that ten nominations of federal officeholders in North Carolina

JAMES FEENY PASSES AWAY AT HOSPITAL

WABUSKA HOTEL MAN PASSED AWAY AT RENO HOSPITAL AFTER OPERATION.

RENO, Nev., March 8.—James T. Feeny, a hotel proprietor of Wabuska, died last night at the St. George hospital in this city, as the result of an abscess in his head, which succeeded a nasal operation. The deceased is survived by a brother and a sister, John M. Feeny of Wabuska and Mrs. William M. Stahl of Oakland. The brother was with him at the time of his death. He was a native of this state and was aged 44 years 2 months and 15 days. He was a member of the Reno lodge of Elks and of the Yerington lodge of Masons.

CONSOLIDATED DECLARES DIVIDEND OF \$1,779,574

GOLDFIELD, Nev., March 8.—At a regular meeting of the board of directors of the Goldfield Consolidated Mines company, held at 10 o'clock yesterday at the office of the company in Goldfield, the following were present: George Wingfield, J. H. Mackenzie and A. H. Howe. Directors absent were J. D. Hubbard and J. H. Carstairs.

The board declared dividend No. 15, payable April 30, to stockholders who are of record on March 30, 1912, at the rate of 30 cents per share, together with an extra 20 cents per share, making 50 cents in all. The declaration of this dividend, at the above rate, makes the tenth consecutive 50-cent dividend paid by the company. After disbursement of dividend No. 15, the company will have a cash reserve in excess of 1,000,000. No other business of importance was transacted.

The above announcement by Secretary A. H. Howe was issued yesterday. The amount of the dividend is \$1,779,574 and with the payment of dividend No. 15, the total of profits disbursed to stockholders within a period of about four years, will have reached the aggregate sum of \$21,705,331.10.

A BLANK IN TONOPAH.

RENO, Nev., March 8.—Patrick A. McCarran, the well-known attorney and former district attorney of Nye county, has announced himself as a candidate for the supreme bench. Mr. McCarran is one of the most successful attorneys in the state and also one of its most brilliant orators. He is a man of fine character and attainments and enjoys a wide acquaintance in the state. He will undoubtedly poll a large vote and his election is claimed as a certainty by his intimate friends.

WINGFIELD BANQUETS COMMERCIAL CLUB TONIGHT

Tonight at the Goldfield hotel George Wingfield will banquet the members of the Goldfield Commercial Boosters' club. It is said covers will be laid for 150 persons. The banquet is a return for one tendered Mr. Wingfield by the same club some three months ago. The people of our sister city are jubilant over the fact that George Wingfield, who controls the Booth and Blue Bull Mining properties, has commenced the sinking of deep shafts on both holdings to demonstrate their true values.

HEAVY PAYDAY IN THE ELY MINING DISTRICT

At the Veteran and Co pper Flat mines of the Nevada Consolidated, and at the Steptoe smelting plant, Monday was a busy day, as upwards of \$200,000 was paid out to the employees. Within the next week the Groux company and the Nevada Northern Railway company will also have their paydays, and in the neighborhood of \$60,000 more will be disbursed to employees.—Ely Express.

ANOTHER TAFT VOTER.

The wife of Harry Dunseath, a former clerk in the Wells Fargo office in this city, presented him with a bouncing ten-pound baby boy last night. The mother and son are doing fine, and Harry is the happiest man in Tonopah today.

RICE, THE SWINDLER, GETS ONLY ONE YEAR IN JAIL

NEW YORK, March 8.—George Graham Rice and B. H. Scheffels, who with other members of the firm of B. H. Scheffels and company have been on trial for the past five months in the United States district court for alleged conspiracy and misuse of the mails, pleaded guilty to the indictments charged when court convened yesterday afternoon.

Judge Ray sentenced Rice to serve one year in jail, the date of his sentence beginning December 29 last, when he was put in the Tombs, but formerly of Reno, Rawhide, Ely, Tonopah, Goldfield and Manhattan, who yesterday escaped so lightly from the penalty which the law usually inflicts upon those found guilty of using the mails to

defraud, told the story of his life so vividly and dramatically in a brief-lived magazine that the story seemed almost true.

Rice, after his Goldfield experiences, came to Reno, where he interested Nat Goodwin in his projects. Together, or rather Rice, under the name of his associate, played Rawhide Coalition and other properties in that camp up and down and also juggled some Fairview securities, such as Eagles' Nest and Hallstone.

The newspapers, which they published here to entice customers, was afterwards moved to New York City and Rice reincorporated himself as Scheffels & Co.

Rice's methods were to support his promotions in order to have some of his customers take profits that they might reinvest. In the building and bearing of his securities many millions of dollars changed hands, but so heavy was the expense of carrying on his promotion game that but a small portion of this money seemed to have stuck to the Rice fingers.